

## **FIREFIGHTER/OPERATOR**

(Competitive Class)

### **DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS**

The class of Firefighter/Operator comprises entrance level positions in the firefighting division of fire department operations. Employees of this class receive training in and perform firefighting and fire suppression tasks such as controlling and extinguishing fires, performing rescue work, and driving, operating, and maintaining fire department vehicles and equipment. Employees of this class respond to all fire alarms received on the assigned shift and may direct emergency scene activities until relieved by a superior officer. Employees of this class perform duties under the supervision of and have work reviewed by a Fire Captain. This class reports to and ranks immediately below that of Fire Captain.

### **EXAMPLES OF WORK**

Examples listed below are illustrative only. They are not intended to include all duties which may be assigned, neither are they intended to exclude other duties which may be logical assignments to this class.

Trains for and performs firefighting and rescue tasks such as connecting, carrying, and operating hose lines; directing fire streams; forcible entry; ventilating buildings; and using ladders, lines, and other equipment to aid in fighting fires or removing fire and accident victims to safety. Administers first aid to victims of fire and accident either on the scene of an emergency or en route to the hospital.

Drives and operates fire apparatus during normal and emergency situations. Studies the district to become familiar with the location of fire hydrants and water lines. Positions apparatus and connects to supply source. Operates pumper to supply adequate pressure to the nozzle. Calculates required water flow, friction loss, and discharge pressure necessary for fire suppression.

Reads and recognizes HAZMAT symbols to identify flammable or hazardous materials. Acts to contain hazardous material spills or control spread. Removes containers of flammable or hazardous materials at fire scene under direction of officer in charge.

Performs salvage tasks necessary to protect property, using covers, tarps, or other materials. Constructs catch-alls and chutes to trap and dispose of water. Locates and extinguishes hidden fires and hot spots. Removes debris and charred waste. Tears down or shores up weak and dangerous structural components

Participates in fire cause determination. Informs officer in

charge of suspected arson. Observes witnesses at the fire scene and questions witnesses to determine fire cause. Testifies in court when called.

Attends and participates in assigned training drills either as an individual or as a member of a group. Attends special schools or courses assigned. Reads and studies assigned material related to performance of work. Takes proficiency tests and participates in physical development workouts and critical evaluations of the response to each fire. Provides on-the-job training for volunteer firefighters.

Cleans, dries, tests, inspects, and properly secures any assigned fire fighting equipment such as hoses, hand tools, portable breathing apparatus, ladders, or related equipment. Makes minor repairs to equipment and tools. Maintains inventory of tools and equipment. Inspects fire hydrants, conducts flow tests, and periodically flushes hydrants to remove rust and sediment.

Performs tasks necessary for the proper maintenance of station and grounds such as cleaning floors and windows, emptying trash cans, mowing grass, or related duties, notifying officer in charge of needed repairs. Cleans fire vehicles. Provides for the security of the station by locking station doors and securing valuable items.

Assists in pre-fire planning for industrial, commercial, and residential structures. Draws preplanning maps and diagrams. Conducts fire drills in schools and businesses.

Performs public relations duties such as calming excited citizens at a fire scene, receiving complaints from the public and referring them to the officer in charge, providing information to the public concerning the work of the fire department, and conducting station tours for individuals or civic groups. Works with local youth groups and other community groups, delivering lectures or demonstrations on fire prevention or fire safety.

Completes any forms, records, or reports as required.

Performs related duties as assigned.

#### **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Unless otherwise specified, all requirements listed below must be met by filing deadline for application for admission to the examination.

Must meet all requirements of the Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Law, including being a citizen of the United States.

After offer of employment, but before beginning work in this class, must pass a medical examination prepared and administered by the Appointing Authority, designed to demonstrate good health and physical fitness sufficient to perform the essential duties of the position, with or without accommodation.

Must have a high school diploma or a valid certificate of equivalency issued by a state department of education.

Must have a valid driver's license.

Prior to beginning work in this class, must obtain and maintain a valid Louisiana driver's license.